

MANHATTAN-ELWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT BOARD MINUTES

240 Whitson Street * Manhattan * IL * 60442

BOARD MEETING

February 23, 2026

Call to Order Monthly Board Meeting – Meeting called to order at 4:31PM by President Murray

ROLL CALL: Present: (voting members): Keri English, Sharon Gill, Tom Murray, Amanda Dearing, Julie Mason (late)

Library Staff: Ashley Hopper, Director; Marcy Juarez, Business/HR Manager

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

CHANGES TO AGENDA: None.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS: None.

MINUTES: Minutes from the January 26, 2026, meeting were approved as written. The motion to accept made by Trustee English and seconded by Trustee Dearing. The motion was passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

CORRESPONDENCE: Statutory Annexation Notice dated 2/18/26

FINANCIAL REPORTS: January 2026 financials were approved as presented. The motion was made by Trustee English, seconded by Trustee Dearing. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

PAYMENT OF SPECIAL BILLS: None.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Given by Director Hopper.

COMMITTEES:

- **IL Library Standards** (formerly Serving Our Public)- review starts in March

OLD BUSINESS:

- **224 Mississippi Lot-** Will move to the March agenda. Previous village administrator retired and there is a new administrator handling the information.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Annexation Information** – A motion was made to continue to have legal explore options regarding the potential annexed land. The motion was made by Trustee Mason and seconded by Trustee English. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.
- **Capital Campaign Information-** Discussion regarding what a capital campaign is and what steps the board should take to begin a campaign.
- **Trustee Traveling – Experience other Libraries** – Gave the board information regarding the Library Road Trip program that our library participates in and encouraged them to visit other libraries.
- **Authorization to Pursue RFQ for Architect Services-** A motion was made to approve the director to discuss with legal what is needed for an RFQ for architecture services. The motion was made by Trustee English and seconded by Trustee Gill. The motion passed unanimously with a roll call vote.

Board Comments:

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee English and seconded by Trustee Mason at 5:42PM.

Respectively submitted,
Marcy Juarez, Business/HR Manager